

30 July 2025

Reference: Maules Creek Coal Mine Project Continuation – Letter of Support

To: NSW Government – Major Projects,

My name is [REDACTED], and I am a mining executive with over 30 years of global experience across a range of commodities including iron ore, copper, coal, gold, silver, and uranium. Throughout my career, I have held senior leadership roles across various jurisdictions, including South America, Papua New Guinea, and Australia.

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Maules Creek Mine Continuation Project. I respectfully urge the Commission to consider the significant long-term benefits this project will deliver to the region, as well as to the broader New South Wales community.

After a 27-year career with BHP, I joined Whitehaven Coal in 2019, which led me to relocate to the Gunnedah and Narrabri region. Since then, I have experienced firsthand the positive socio-economic impact of Whitehaven's investment in regional NSW, particularly through its Maules Creek operations.

The continuation of the Maules Creek Mine is critical not only for maintaining current employment levels but also for creating future economic opportunities across the local and regional communities. A project of this scale supports hundreds of direct and indirect jobs, strengthens local businesses, and underpins essential public services.

In FY24 alone, over \$200 million was spent with businesses operating in Northwest NSW, and the Maules Creek Coal Mine contributed approximately \$168 million in royalties to the NSW Government, funds that help support schools, hospitals, infrastructure, and other essential services. The proposed continuation would extend the mine's life by an additional 10 years, secure approximately 940 ongoing jobs (with around 70% of employees locally based), and provide meaningful employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who currently represent approximately 14% of the workforce. In FY24, the mine also contributed approximately \$160 million in wages to its workforce.

In an increasingly uncertain global economic climate, the continuation of the Maules Creek Coal Mine will help build a more resilient and diversified regional economy and ensure long-term prosperity for the community.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]